

# God Redeemed You!

## Ephesians 1:7-10

### *Redemption*

The theme in this section of Ephesians is redemption. We will look at redemption's components.

#### **DAY 1: Forgiveness**

*Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace*

#### **Forgiveness:**

1. "Forgiveness" – is the Greek word that means to carry something away, to remove something out of sight.

*John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*

2. Do you know how the Lamb of God took away our sins?

*Ps. 103:12 As far as the east is from the west so far does God remove our transgressions from us.*

3. The psalmist uses a fascinating metaphor to help us understand forgiveness. What strikes you about this metaphor?

4. When we think of the cross of Christ, we are reminded of more than just our forgiveness or even our salvation. We are also reminded at what great price He paid for it.

*Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.*

5. What is the measure of forgiveness that God offers us?

6. What strikes you most from today's devotional?

## DAY 2: Redemption

*Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace*

1. "Redemption" (the Greek word is "lutron"). It has several meanings. It can mean to liberate something or someone by a ransom. It can also mean to make something or someone useful after it has been damaged or "ruined."

2. An example of redeeming an awful situation is how God used Joseph being sold into slavery, and then into prison to bring about food for a nation to survive during a seven year famine and to move God's story forward through His chosen people!

*Genesis 50:20 As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.*

3. Redemption usually involves a cost. The greater the amount of redemption, the greater the cost someone must pay.

*Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace*

4. Here, the price paid to bring about forgiveness was the blood of Jesus Christ, His death on a cross!

5. The death of Jesus Christ was the highest price that was ever paid for anything. What does this say about the awfulness of sin?

6. When you think of redemption there are four parts. Think of these four words:

- A. Predicament. Slave, POW, death row inmate. Unable to extricate himself.
- B. Purchaser. *Someone* wants to come to their aid.
- C. Purchase. A purchase is made, sometimes all at once, sometimes over a long period of time.
- D. Price. Usually, a "king's ransom."

7. What strikes you from today's devotional?

### DAY 3: The ladder rungs of redemption, part 1

*Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace*

1. There are several biblical terms describing different elements of redemption. Think of them in a kind of ladder of redemption, each rung moving us higher.

2. Rung #1 on the ladder of redemption:

a. **Agorazo:** (Gk.) Marketplace. To buy in a marketplace. This word emphasizes a **place** where a transaction is made.

b. In a marketplace, nothing is gained without paying a price for it.

c. Our redemption was won on a hill called Golgotha.

3. Rung #2 on the ladder of redemption:

a. **Kofer:** (Heb.) A ransom price. A key element in redemption is ransom.

b. The key element in redemption is the **price** that was paid.

c. We usually think of salvation as a free gift. It is, to us. But it wasn't free to Him. It cost Him His life in a torturous death.

d. In Hebrew culture, if an animal accidentally killed a man, the animal's life could be forfeited. However, the owner of the animal could settle on an amount with the surviving relatives, thereby sparing the life of the animal. The amount was known as the "kofer." The animal was thus, redeemed, in this case from death.

*Matthew 20:28 ...the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.*

e. His life was the price.

4. What strikes you from today's devotional?

He would buy us out of slavery to sin at the cost of His own life.

Redemption refers to several facets. First, we are redeemed from a life of sin and decay.

## DAY 4: The ladder rungs of redemption, part 2

1. There are four ladder rungs of redemption. (We studied the first two yesterday).

a. Marketplace. Our redemption was won at a place, the cross.

b. Ransom. A price was paid in exchange for our forgiveness.

c. Movement out of, or movement away from.

**Ex-agorazo:** “Ex” is a prefix meaning “out of.” The meaning is to buy *out of* the marketplace. The idea is that whatever is purchased there will never return there. Ever.

2. What is highlighted is the permanence of our redemption. We have not only been bought out of a life of sin, but we’ve also been bought in such a fashion that we need never be sold under the power of sin again.

3. In Greek days a slave could be bought and taken home to work for a benevolent master. But there was no guarantee that the slave would not be sold back into the marketplace, and thereby end up under a master that was quite cruel. This could never happen with us and Christ.

4. “Having been purchased at the infinite cost of the blood of God’s own Son, there is no one who can possibly top the price and thus purchase us away from Him.” Boice, p30.

5. He would buy us out of slavery to sin at the cost of His own life.

6. The highest rung on the redemption ladder:

a. “**Luo**”- to loose or set free. This takes what God has done for us a step further. A slave can be bought at the marketplace, taken out of the marketplace never to be sold as a slave again, yet remain a slave. “This is not what Jesus Christ did for us. He bought us out of the marketplace and set us free.” Boice, p30

b. Under each of the next two verses, jot down what strikes you about this element of redemption.

*Titus 2:14 ...who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good.*

*1 Peter 1:18-19 You know it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.*

7. What strikes you from today’s devotional?

## DAY 5: The fellowship of the redeemed

1. “The concept of ransom is used in the following predicaments: ransoming a slave or a prisoner of war, of releasing a man under penalty of death for some crime, of the emancipation of Israel from Egyptian bondage, and of God’s rescuing His people in the time of their trouble. *In every case the conception is the delivering or the setting free of a man from a situation from which he himself was powerless to liberate himself, or from a penalty which he himself could never have paid.*” Barclay, p. 93

2. Under the rest of the verses in our passage, (verses 7-10), jot down what strikes you in each verse:

*Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace...*

*Ephesians 1:8 ... that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.*

*Ephesians 1:9 And he made known to us **the mystery of His will** according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ...*

*Ephesians 1:10 ...to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment **to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.***

3. God’s plan is to bring everything back together under the head of Christ, under His authority.

4. Why is it important that Christ brings everything to Himself? Sin makes a mess of things. Look on the international front, the national front and the home front—your home. Sin separates people, creates hurt feelings and *distance*. Man was separated from God in the Garden of Eden. Man was separated from man in the garden of Eden, Cain and Abel were separated by sin, and so on down through the millennia. People tried to maintain a unity through the building of the tower of Babel. That failed. Sin tears relationships apart and people apart. Christ is working to bring folks together, peace in your heart and peace between people.

5. What strikes you from today’s devotional?